

BG 2-1

15 November 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

FROM:

Acting Director of Logistics

SUBJECT: New Headquarters Building Sound Problem

1. The Office of Logistics has been investigating complaints of sound transmission in the New Headquarters Building (NHB). This situation was initially brought to our attention by components of the Directorate of Intelligence (DI). More recently, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) raised concerns regarding this situation. The ability to overhear conversations being conducted in adjacent offices has security implications and, in the case of OIG, privacy and confidentiality are of paramount concern.

2. Areas which were identified to us during the design of the NHB as needing soundproofing were treated with insulating material during construction. At this time, to go back and install soundproofing material in existing walls would be extremely expensive and disruptive to components already in place. We have discussed this situation with our consultants and have initiated a prototype project in the OIG area of the NHB to improve the sound absorption quality of offices in that area. This project consists of using blown-in insulation in the office walls and roll insulation in the ceilings. Work in the OIG area started on 14 November and should be completed by 18 November. If sound readings indicate that we were successful in attenuating sound transmission between offices, we will approach DI components to schedule treatment of their areas.

3. Areas not yet modified in the NHB will be soundproofed during the modification process. We will advise you of progress made to correct this problem.

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